

# South Dakota National Guard

## Public Affairs Office

Phone: 605-737-6721 Email: [ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil) Web: [sd.ng.mil](http://sd.ng.mil)

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

May 26, 2017



## **SD Guard wins gold in Army Communities of Excellence Awards**

ARLINGTON, Va. – The 2017 Army Communities of Excellence Awards presented the South Dakota Army National Guard with a gold recipient award at the Pentagon, May 24.

The ACOE Awards recognize top performance within U.S. Army, National Guard and Reserve installations/communities and their approach to systems management.

“This award is proof positive that the South Dakota Army National Guard is a world class organization,” said Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, adjutant general of the SDNG. “Every one of our Soldiers should take great pride in the part they played in helping to achieve this milestone.”

The ACOE Awards follow a 12-month evaluation and score using the Malcolm Baldrige criteria for performance excellence.

ACOE Awards score participants on how well they demonstrate maturity of key organizational processes and their ability to show results in areas such as leadership, strategic planning, customer focus, work force management and operational effectiveness.

After placing as runner-up last year, Reisch said the goal was to take lessons learned and apply them to this year’s competition.

“This competition is about readiness,” said Reisch. “If you apply the principles and put them into practice, you’ll learn that the investment has been very well placed.”

By using criteria established for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award as a framework for performance assessment, the ACOE program helps participating Army installations/communities focus on providing excellence in facilities and services in support of Soldiers, their families and civilians.

Baldrige-based performance assessments provide opportunities to identify best practices in installation management and reveal potential opportunities to apply appropriate performance improvement tools.

Because of the gold finish, the ACOE Awards presented the SDARNG with \$100,000 to enhance the organization even further. The money will support process improvement, specifically supporting workforce professional development.

-30-



**170523-Z-ZZ999-0001:** South Dakota Army National Guard Soldiers accept the gold recipient award in the 2017 Army Communities of Excellence Awards during a ceremony at the National Guard Bureau, Arlington, Va., May 23, 2017. The ACOE Awards recognize top performance within U.S. Army, National Guard and Reserve installations/communities and their approach to systems management. (Courtesy photo)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,** please contact the SDNG Public Affairs Office at (605) 737-6721 or e-mail [ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil)